

Statement of Substance of Interview

[0001] Examiner Swearingen graciously talked with me—the undersigned representative for the Applicant—on May 7, 2009. Applicant greatly appreciates the Examiner’s willingness to talk. Such willingness is invaluable to each of us in our common goal of an expedited prosecution of this patent application.

[0002] During the interview, I discussed how the claims differed from the cited references, particularly Black. Without conceding the propriety of the rejections and in the interest of expediting prosecution, I also proposed several possible clarifying amendments.

[0003] The Examiner was receptive to the proposals, indicating that the amendments appeared to overcome the cited references. However, the Examiner indicated that he would need to review the cited references and perform an updated search, and requested that the amendments be presented in writing.

[0004] Applicant herein amends the claims in the manner discussed during the interview. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the pending claims are allowable over the cited references of record for at least the reasons discussed during the interview.